

Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for May 25, 2010

Attendance: Jay Bollwinkel, Susan Wright, Kathy Romero, Steve Meyers, Mary Ann Kirk (staff)

1. Minutes for April 27, 2010 were approved.
2. An updated goals and project draft was passed out. This will be a discussion for next month to identify priority projects. Mary Ann shared a newspaper article about Draper who has been very aggressive in raising private funds for preserving a dairy barn. They have done similar projects with several other buildings. Draper and several other city groups presented community funding ideas at a state preservation conference. Mary Ann thought we might want to have them share their ideas with the board. Steve suggested we identify a few key projects that we could focus on and then begin to ask community members for donations. Mary Ann said we could probably create a special account for this. Mary Ann suggested we invite an individual from Draper and Wilson Martin from the state who has experience in public funds for preservation. Jay said there are grants available for preservation projects. Board members would like to discuss this next month.
3. The city will host a team from National America In Bloom in June. Mary Ann asked if the board thought a city tour of history sites for the public would add to the event. She could rent a bus but we would need to do it in the evening if we wanted the public to attend. Jay said the team had a tight schedule and probably wouldn't have time to join in this kind of tour. Board members agreed a tour and some public workshops would be a good idea in September. Kirk Huffacker from the Heritage Foundation and state history could help us with workshops. Kathy suggested we could have an event outside with food and entertainment and raise funds for one of our projects. We could end up at the Cahoon Mansion. This would help us raise awareness. Mary Ann suggested we could have the workshops at the Murray chapel.
4. Jay said the America in Bloom committee was trying to figure out how to deal with the Hoffman building. Some felt it was an eyesore. Mary Ann suggested it actually shows that we are considering preservation options. Committee members noted that many of the ornate buildings are gone. Susan said it was sad the old city hall was demolished. Mary Ann said that many significant buildings were demolished in the 1950s when preservation was just beginning and continued through the 1970s such as the Atwood Mansion, 1st National Bank, and Commercial Hall. Bonnyview was another example of a building that could have been saved. The owner thought it would be more marketable without the building but it still stands as vacant land. Several people called Mary Ann after it was demolished who were interested in the building and were frustrated that an effort to find an interested buyer was not made. Board members agreed that identifying a priority list for landmarks would be helpful. They wanted to revisit the idea to save the Freeze barn. Most felt it makes sense just to move it a little into the park. We can talk about this next month.

5. Mary Ann said we will wait to discuss significant building criteria in the new downtown district after Tim Tingey brings forward staff suggestions regarding ordinance wording for next month. We need to make sure the designation criteria is clear and consistent for all buildings with defined hardship wording.
6. A few board members took a driving tour of potential landmarks including the Freeze barn, State Street and Poplar Street in the DHOD, Sheranian Clinic, Lake Pines Clubhouse, Bradford home, Relief Society Granary, Murray 2nd Ward, Bennion Flour Mill (Nelson and Sons), and Murray Power Building.
7. Next month we will discuss funding options or visit the museum if presenters are not available.